



Background

WACOSS was funded by the NDRR program in 2022 to deliver the **Disaster Resilience and Emergency Food Security project** (the Project), the Project includes the development of a Food Security Preparedness Plan (the Plan). The plan was developed using a participatory Group Model Building process on via a workshop. The workshop hosted various representatives from emergency management, local government and community sectors that represent the Armadale region.

Many Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA) include an annual exercise schedule that tests the capacity and capability of the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) and key social and emergency management contributors in the community to respond in times of disaster or hazard. This annual exercise is often in the form of scenario testing.

The following scenario has been developed for the Armadale region and their unique social and emergency context. You should use this scenario as an example of appropriate scenarios and a tool to help develop your own for your region.

This scenario should be used to test whether your Food Security Plan (see template on website) has improved the effectiveness of food security arrangements for your region.

Aim of the exercise

Exercise aim	To examine the effectiveness of [insert region name] Foods Security and Disaster Preparedness Plan (The Plan)
Exercise Objective 1.	To assess whether the Plan aids the community’s understanding of their social demographics and improves the coordination of appropriate amounts and types of emergency food <u>Performance indicators</u> a) Special dietary needs of impacted people are identified. b) Food Stress Index is used to identify appropriate types and amounts of food needed.
Exercise Objective 2.	To assess the Plan’s alignment with the National Recovery Principles for the effective coordination of emergency food supply. <u>Performance indicators</u> a) Food coordination activities align to National Recovery Principles. b) Coordination of emergency food aligns to community preferences and needs.
Exercise Objective 3.	To evaluate the effectiveness of interagency partnerships and agreements in the coordination and delivery of emergency food: <u>Performance indicators</u>



	a) Effective coordination of emergency food for humans, pets and livestock.
Exercise Objective 4.	To test the Plan's influence on the coordination of the use of contingency supply chain systems <u>Performance indicators</u> a) CORE is used to identify contingency infrastructure. b) CORE is used to coordinate relief supplies by multiple agencies.

General Idea

Here you should describe your region. How large does your region span? What kind of activities does your region engage in? What is the growth rate of your region? If you were describing your region, what would you say?

Here is an example:

The City of Armadale is an east metropolitan regional centre spanning 545 square kilometres. The city centre of Armadale is a hub for residents, providing services, supermarkets, retail outlets, and legal services. Armadale is one of Western Australia's fastest-growing Local Government Areas. It was anticipated in 2020 that the population will increase by 3.58 per cent annually to 116,880 people by 2026.¹

Disaster risk

Here you should describe any known disaster risks for your region. Is your region particularly susceptible to bushfire, flood or other known disasters, crisis or hazards? How do you know this? What involvement with DFES has your region previously had?

Here is an example:

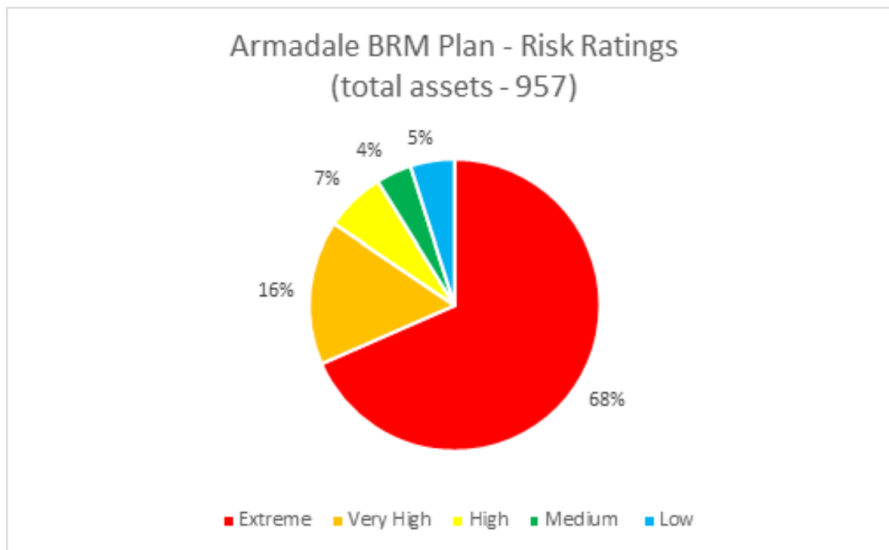
Bushfire risk

A quality assurance review of the City of Armadale bushfire risks was conducted by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) Superintendent - South East Region in January 2020. The City of Armadale received a risk rating that is the highest in the state.

¹ C Twomey, G Hansen, J Gray and C Chambers (2019) A Thriving Community: Hope, Inclusion and Trust. Submission for the WA State Budget 2020-21. Western Australian Council of Social Service



- **91% of assets and / or asset groupings within the City of Armadale are a high to extreme bushfire risk**



Social demographics and vulnerability

Here you should describe the social demographic of your region and spotlight any known vulnerabilities within your community. You may like to gather census data from ABS for population statistics. Special attention should be paid to information regarding those who live with a disability or are culturally and linguistically diverse or may be socially isolated, as these people should be at the forefront mind of disaster planning. A recent 2021 Report from the Western Australian Council of Social Service (WACOSS) noted that people living on low incomes often struggled to meet the costs of food, utilities and health care².

Here is an example:

Armadale has an estimated population of 97,650, including 4,990 seniors, 1,758 First Nations people, 7,204 English as a second language and 2,270 people who don't speak English at all.

India and Philippines are the two highest non-English speaking points of migration.

1,210 people Armadale reported needing help in their day-to-day lives due to disability

In City of Armadale, the most common long-term health condition was mental health condition, (8,487) while 29.6% of the population reported one or more health conditions³.

Scenario:

It is important to note that the scenario you develop should be unique to your region and its disaster risk and sociocultural context. We encourage you to use the scenario you've built, alongside the Food Security and Disaster Preparedness Plan which should be specifically designed to suit the needs and activities of your region.

When designing a scenario, you should consider the following:

² C Twomey, G Hansen, J Gray and C Chambers (2019) A Thriving Community: Hope, Inclusion and Trust. Submission for the WA State Budget 2020-21. Western Australian Council of Social Service

³ Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021) 'Data by Region, Local Government Area Armadale [https://dbr.abs.gov.au/], accessed 02 February 2023



- Set the scene – This should highlight the location, disaster or hazard type and its impact in broad terms. Think about how long the disaster or hazard lasts, its geographic impact, what services or utilities were impacted and whether it may be the cause of a concurrent disaster or hazard.
- Disaster / hazard – what type of disaster / hazard is caused?
- Background to the disaster/hazard – has your region faced this before? What was occurring in the lead up to this moment? Has there been any pre-existing impact that you must deal with first?
- Incident level declaration – what scale is this disaster/hazard? Has it been declared by other emergency service bodies or is it still only being declared an event by local authorities? At what point will State or Federal bodies become involved in disaster response?
- What is the current situation?
- How will the disaster/hazard progress until stand down orders are given?

A comprehensive example is below:

Scene setting:

During the second week of December, one major bushfire incidents occur in Roleystone, concurrently, the Perth metro experiences is experiencing a level 3 Heatwave with EHF protracted and exceeding six days. There is a risk to the Perth power grid with load shedding occurring and risk of uncontrolled power outages.

On day five of the heatwave, a fire is burning approximately 15 kilometres from Roleystone / Brookton highway towards Aruluen Botanical Park

Hazard: Heatwave, Bushfire

Background

December 4th 2023, the Perth metro is experiencing a level 3 Heatwave with EHF protracted and exceeding six days. There is a risk to the Perth power grid with load shedding occurring and the risk of uncontrolled power outages.

December 6 2023, a major bushfire incident occurs in Roleystone; coinciding with a level 3 heatwave.

The Heatwave Incident Level Declaration is 3

The triggers for activating the State Hazard Plan – Heatwave (the Plan) were met on Monday 4th December for a Heatwave affecting the Perth Metropolitan area.

Power outages affected several suburbs including Roleystone, Canning, Kelmscott and Armadale. As of six o'clock Monday December 4th, there was 11,500 customers without power with 103 small outages scattered across the metropolitan area.

Current situation

Daytime temperatures over much of the Interior the south East Metropolitan away from the coast in the low to mid-forties and overnight temperatures in the high twenties to low thirties over the coming nights.

This forecasting indicates an Extreme heatwave for three days commencing Monday 4th December to Wednesday 7 December.

Special ideas- escalating bushfire risk from level 3



Monday 4th December 2023 09:05 hours

At 8:35 Level 1 Advice is issued:

Fire with a medium level complexity risk for size, duration, resources, and community impact is burning approximately 15 kilometres from Roleystone / Brookton highway towards Aruluen Botanical Park.

Tuesday 6th December 2023 21:00 hours

Watch and Act is issued.

The community is notified that the bushfire is at a Watch and Act level with a possible threat to lives and homes. Conditions are changing and residents are advised to leave the area or prepare to actively defend their homes. Broadcast in full on ABC Local Radio and 6PR every half hour at quarter past and quarter to the hour.

The fire risk escalates easterly through Roleystone along Brookton highway multiple properties, and businesses are at risk. The fire is moving towards Aruluen Botanical Park, Camp Simons, which is at capacity with 85 children and adults camping.

- 45 members of an interstate Pilipino Church visiting Aruluen down and will be evacuated and arrive at the evacuation centre approx. 10:45 am
- 85 residents and holidaymakers picnicking at Canning Dam will be evacuated and arrive at about 10.30 am
 - 25 of these residents are seniors with chronic health issues
 - 3 of these have a disability and require assistance and accessibility support
 - Family of 12 Muslim holidaymakers

Wednesday 7th December 2023 6:47 hours Level 3 bush fire Emergency Warning is issued:

- 10:15 am there is a request from the business owner to host 21 evacuated horses and from Narbethong Equestrian Park. They will arrive approx. 11.05 am

An ABC news report tells of 35 children and 12 adults who are camping at the Camp Simmons Aruluen Botanical Park, visiting from interstate. They will arrive approx. 11:30 am

A Perth livestock business offers feed for evacuated horses and livestock and requests a location to have supplies stored

- At 11:35 am, an Armadale Pilipino Community group offered to make appropriate food for evacuated families, this food but need access to a commercial kitchen
- At 12.02pm the evacuation centre experiences an unscheduled power outage with over 100 people sheltering in the evacuation centre and temperatures rising inside to 33. degrees and risk of increasing indoor temperature without cooling.
- Between 12.08pm and 12:33pm The City received enquiries from local and metro community service organisations with donations of perishable and non-perishable food, donations of bulk supplies of water bottles, donations of Bunnings gift cards, donations of PPE (gloved, boots, overalls) donations shovels, rakes and hoses, machinery such as bobcats.



- 2.50pm Evacuation centre power is restored.
- 2.55pm The evacuation centre is notified that there has been multiple properties and sheds damaged, but no houses lost.
- 4.36pm Evacuation centre staff are notified that the bush fire has now been contained, and DFES issues a Watch and Act for impacted zones.
- 6.55pm Evacuation centre staff are notified that the bush fire is now under control, and DFES issues an Advice level warning for impacted zones.
- At 8.20pm Evacuees are notified that residents can begin to return home and assess the damage.
- At 10.40pm The last remaining evacuees return home, while interstate visitors are provided with emergency accommodation until they can return home.
- At 11.50pm The evacuation centre is stood down.